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MARTIN & FERRARO, LLP
1557 Lake O'Pines Street, NE
Hartville, Ohio 44632Telephone
(330) 877-0700Facsimile
(330) 877-2030

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TO:

Name: Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Group Art Unit 3738/Examiner Bruce Snow

Firm: U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

Fax No.: 703-872-9306

Subject: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/921,844
Gary K. Michelson
Filed: August 3, 2001
SPINAL IMPLANT SURFACE CONFIGURATION
Attorney Docket No. 101.0084-01000
Customer No. 22882
Confirmation No.: 8295

FROM:

Name: Thomas H. Martin, Esq.

Phone No.: 330-877-2277

No. of Pages (including this): 4

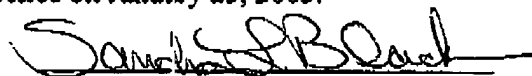
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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 101.0084-01
Customer No. 22882

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	Confirmation No : 8295
Gary K. Michelson)	
Serial No.: 09/921,844)	Group Art Unit: 3738
Filed: August 3, 2001)	Examiner: Bruce Snow
For: SPINAL IMPLANT SURFACE)	
CONFIGURATION)	

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final Action or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), the fee of \$180.00 as specified by Section 1.17(p) is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1066.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-1066.

Respectfully submitted,

MARTIN & FERRARO, LLP

Date: January 25, 2005

By: Thomas H. Martin
Thomas H. Martin
Registration No. 34,383

1557 Lake O'Pines Street, NE
Hartville, Ohio 44632
Telephone: (330) 877-0700
Facsimile: (330) 877-2030

JAN 25 2005

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Substitute for FORM PTO-1449		Attorney Docket Number -101.0084-01000	Customer No. 22882			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION		Applicant Gary K. Michelson	Application Number 09/921,844			
(Use several sheets if necessary) Sheet <u>1</u> of <u>1</u>		Filing Date August 3, 2001	Group Art Unit 3738	Examiner B. Snow		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	2002/0068978A1	6/2002	Camino et al.			
	5,019,107	5/1991	Schelhas			
	6,592,624	7/2003	Fraser et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED				
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.						